



# USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0575

FRIDAY  
MARCH 18, 2005  
VOL. 52 NO. 33

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

### DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

The market tone on 8-16 lb. hens and 16-24 lb. toms was steady to fully steady. Sales were reported for packer label hens and toms for deferred shipments. Prompt shipments are limited. Offerings were light to moderate. Demand was slow. Bulk parts and meats trading was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to short. Inquiry was mixed.

### EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trading was fairly good and centered on thigh meat, tom drums and full-cut wings, balance moderate. Demand was moderate to good.



**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MARCH 17, 2005**

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/				FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/	
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	64-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	63-66	-	-	-	-	-	-	600	JUN-JUL
WESTERN REGION 5/	64-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	62-64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	62-63	-	-	-	-	-	-	600	JUN-JUL
WESTERN REGION 5/	62-63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MARCH 18, 2005**

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/				FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/	
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	64-66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	63-65	-	-	-	64.50	447.5	APR-MAY	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	65-67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	62-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	62-64	-	-	-	63.50	107	A PR-MAY	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	63-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days.

3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting. 6/ Includes product committed for pricing during the previous 24 hours but shipment in more than 14 days from date of commitment. 7/ Includes product committed during previous 24 hours at prices to be determined at later date.

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES FOR WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

W/E MAR 18, 2005	CURRENT LAST SAME WEEK		
	WEEK	WEEK	YEAR AGO
8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	64.60**	64.40**	62.50**
CENTRAL REGION	64.40**	65.43	63.00**
WESTERN REGION	64.80**	64.50**	63.00**
16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	63.10**	63.00**	60.00**
CENTRAL REGION	62.60**	62.00	61.00**
WESTERN REGION	62.80**	62.50**	61.00**

\*\*BASED ON OFFERS

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED TURKEY,  
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	88-96
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	88-96
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	65-70
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	63-68
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	64-74

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED TURKEY  
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	<u>RANGE</u>
TURKEYS Y HENS	105-123
TURKEYS Y TOMS UNDER 22#	99-123
TURKEYS Y TOMS 22-24#	99-116
TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-26#	98-120
TURKEYS Y TOMS 26 LBS & OVER	98-122

**NATIONAL FRESH TURKEYS -**

U.S. GRADE A, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS

(prices reflect turkeys with timers) Week of 21-MAR-2005

Price (cents/lb.)	Volume (lbs.)
-------------------	---------------

**PRICED AT TIME OF SALE**

8-16 lbs.	75.50	600,000
16-24 lbs.	74.23	260,000

**PRICE TO BE DETERMINED**

8-16 lbs.	--	40,000
16-24 lbs.	--	10,000

Total Volume:	910,000
---------------	---------

\*\*\*\*\*

**TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED IN FEDERALLY INSPECTED PLANTS**

W/E 12-Mar-2005 BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS (PRELIMINARY)

		YOUNG TURKEYS		TOTAL TURKEYS		
		PCT	AVG			
		CHG	LIVE	OLD		AVG
			WT	BANDED		LIVE
-THOUSAND HEAD-		PW		-THOUSAND HEAD-		WT
North East	730	4	24.58	(A)	731	24.58
South Atlantic	578	9	31.94	(A)	579	31.94
North Central	1,922	0	33.50	(A)	1,923	33.50
South Central	481	1	21.81	(A)	481	21.81
West	327	2	25.55	(A)	327	25.55
U.S. total	4,038(B)	2	29.65	3	4,041	29.65
To-date						
2005	40,547(B)			35	40,582	
To-date						
2004	41,846(B)			88	41,934	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 10,000; for the current year to date 277,000; for last year to date 423,000.

**TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND (IN THOUSAND POUNDS)**

Slaughter-certified ready-to-cook turkeys

February	386,142*
March 1 - 12, 2005	172,297*

To date 2005	963,337*
To date 2004	945,641*

\* Preliminary

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION**

W/E 12-Mar-2005

	YOUNG		YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS		TURKEYS
	Thousands				
Head	1,551	2,477	10	3	4,041
Avg Wt	16.59	37.81	25.62	55.91	29.65
Head sltr comparisons					
Last week	1,466	2,470	25	0	3,961
Same wk yr ago	1,646	2,589	70	7	4,312
Avg Wt	15.95	36.37	25.55	23.16	28.38
To-date/2005	15,250	25,020	277	35	40,582
To-date/2004	16,843	24,580	423	88	41,934

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats, Chief
	Fax	(202)720-2403	
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman, Officer-in-Charge
	Fax	(404)562-5875	
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown, Southern States Area Supervisor
	Fax	(601)965-4661	
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins, Officer-in-Charge
	Fax	(515)284-4468	
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Los Angeles, CA	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby, Officer-in-Charge
	Fax	(213)534-1333	
	Recorded	(213)534-1335	

**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT,** FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 17 MARCH 2005.

Fresh and frozen tom breast meat sold at higher trending values. Offerings of fresh breast meat were tight to adequate for the moderate demand. Trading on parts consisted of less than truck-lot volumes. Supplies of tom necks and tom drums were adequate, wings were full adequate. The market tone was steady to fully steady on necks, steady on drums and barely steady on wings. Limited supplies of fresh and frozen mechanically separated turkey support a fully steady to firm undertone. Plant grade non-basted breasts: 12-14 lb. 115-120; 14-16 lb. 125-130; 16-18 lb. 125; 18-20 lb. 130 cents delivered.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		W	105.00	400
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A--FRESH 2/	158.00		158.00	40
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/				
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	42.00		42.00	4
DRUMSTICKS, TOM--FRESH		R	40.00	80
DRUMSTICKS, HEN				
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	35.00		35.00	11
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		W	42.71	124
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN				
NECKS, TOM	24.00		24.00	4
NECKS, HEN				
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	166.00-168.00		167.00	80
BREASTS, B/S, TOM--FRESH 3/	158.00-159.00		158.50	319
THIGH MEAT				
THIGH MEAT--FRESH		F	92.47	150
BREAST TRIM MEAT		W	142.00	40
SCAPULA MEAT		F	114.33	60
TENDERLOINS		F	145.00	40
DESTRAPPED TENDERS		F	151.83	60
DESTRAPPED TENDERS--FRESH		T	170.00	40
WING MEAT WITH SKIN		M	80.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	30.00		30.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED--FRESH 4/	26.00-28.00		27.05	78
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		F	39.00	208
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		F	30.00	312
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		M	38.00	104
TAILS		R	24.00	160
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		W	29.50	40
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	88.31	408

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted.

3/ Boneless and skinless without tenderloins.

4/ 15-20% fat with skin added.

**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 18 MARCH 2005.**

The market tone tom breast meat was fully steady, steady on fresh destrapped tenderloins, fully steady on frozen destrapped tenderloins with trading noted at higher trending prices, breast trim steady to fully steady, frozen scapula steady at best and frozen wing meat with skin steady to barely steady. Demand moderate on tom breast meat, light to moderate on destrapped tenderloins, balance of white meat light to moderate on fresh with frozen light. Offerings of tom breast meat and destrapped tenderloins were held with confidence, balance light to instances fully adequate with frozen wing meat with skin the most readily available. Export trading was very active on open priced fresh tom drums for April shipments, active on firm priced tom drums at mostly steady prices and on frozen thigh meat at steady to lower trending price levels, balance slow to moderate. Domestic trading centered on moderate volumes of white meat and hen drums, balance slow. For export: hen necks 19.50, tom necks 20.50-22, frozen strap-in tenderloins 144 cents delivered current, livers 22.50 cents shipping point for April-May shipments. Fresh tom breast meat traded with 165 cent price ceiling for March-April shipments.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	LST CDE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY	
					WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		W	105.00	400	105.00	400
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A--FRESH 2/		R	158.00	40	150.15	53
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/						
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	40.00		40.00	46	39.94	210
DRUMSTICKS, TOM--FRESH						
DRUMSTICKS, HEN	39.00		39.00	320	39.00	320
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	30.00-33.00		30.19	128	31.11	179
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	41.00-42.00		41.75	160	41.29	384
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN	78.00-82.00		79.45	220	79.45	220
NECKS, TOM	20.00-22.00		20.14	86	20.43	586
NECKS, HEN						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/		R	167.00	80	166.00	160
BREASTS, B/S, TOM--FRESH 3/	158.00-162.00		159.33	240	160.43	799
THIGH MEAT	86.00		86.00	40	86.00	40
THIGH MEAT--FRESH		F	92.47	150		
BREAST TRIM MEAT	136.00		136.00	40	139.00	80
SCAPULA MEAT		F	114.33	60		
TENDERLOINS		F	145.00	40		
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	151.00-155.00		152.43	377	152.43	377
DESTRAPPED TENDERS--FRESH		T	170.00	40	170.00	40
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	85.00		85.00	40	82.50	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		R	30.00	40	30.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED--FRESH 4/	27.00		27.00	20	26.79	218
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	37.00-40.00		39.03	744	39.03	744
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	30.00-30.50		30.08	248	30.08	248
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	52.00		52.00	104	45.00	208
TAILS	24.50		24.50	40	24.50	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	30.00		30.00	104	29.36	276
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	85.00-89.00		86.63	768	86.63	768

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.):

M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted.

3/ Boneless and skinless without tenderloins.

4/ 15-20% fat with skin added.